

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

12. (currently amended) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:  
a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;  
an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon; and  
having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including  
a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall  
section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall  
section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, and  
a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first  
end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall  
section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge laterally from  
the wall section and the connectors are configured to provide both expansion and contraction  
between adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

13. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the S-shaped  
connectors comprise a double curvature shape.

14. (presently amended) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the S-shape  
connectors are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall section.

15. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the S-shape  
connectors are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

16. (previously presented) The assembly of any claims 12 to 15, wherein the  
S-shaped connectors, connect at least some of the longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall

sections extending along an intermediate section of the stent which is disposed between ends of the stent.

17. (presently amended) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:

a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;

an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, having an unexpanded and expanded configuration; and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge laterally from the wall section and the connectors are configured to provide a flexibility in both the expanded and unexpanded configurations.

Claims 18-22 (cancelled).